

January 23, 2002

Renata Hesse
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Dear Ms. Hesse:

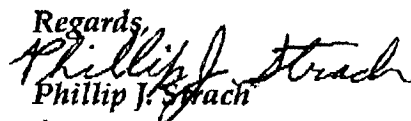
I write to express my desire that the government will act in a cooperative manner with Microsoft and similar business interests in developing a mutually beneficial relationship. I am convinced that now is the time to end the federal government's litigation against Microsoft.

Microsoft and the federal government have agreed to settle the suit. The public is yearning for an economic recovery. Congress is debating an economic stimulus package. With these facts in mind, I am quite confident that we should move beyond the Microsoft case and work to get our stagnant economy moving again.

As an attorney, I realize that antitrust law is an important component of maintaining a competitive marketplace. However, company innovation and product improvements are as well, and since both parties have agreed to settle the lawsuit, I believe that it would be advantageous for everyone if Microsoft can get back to doing what it does best: researching and developing useful technological tools for the American workplace and the American home.

The settlement guarantees that other companies will have market access. Every new Microsoft operating system will have to include a mechanism that enables end users to remove or re-enable Microsoft's middleware products. While end users can already remove Microsoft middleware from Windows XP, this settlement would make it even easier for users to change middleware products.

I hope that Judge Kollar Kotelly approves the settlement.

Regards,

Phillip J. Strach
Attorney